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*Bill White, Mayor of Houston*

## Message from the Mayor

I thank you for your support of the “Celebrate Shanghai in Houston” festivities. We entered into official partnership with Shanghai on April 1, 2005, to pursue economic and cultural exchange between the two cities. We signed three significant agreements in this landmark meeting in the history of Houston's international cooperation.

The three Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) we signed were: the City Partnership MOU between the City of Houston and Shanghai Municipal People's Government; then, in commerce, the ports of Houston and Shanghai agreed to facilitate personnel exchange programs and improve market communication; and, in education, St. John's School of Houston and Shanghai's Public High School No.1 committed to a friendship dedicated to the development of international understanding and academic curriculum. I have every confidence that, as established by the agreements, Houston and Shanghai will continue to promote a mutually favorable commercial and educational relationship for the benefit of the citizens of both communities.

Bill White  
Mayor of Houston



*Mayor Han Zheng and Mayor Bill White*

## Message from the Director

I would like to express my deepest appreciation for your support to the 2005 Trade Mission to Asia. Because of sudden new developments in the Tokyo Governor's schedule, we have had to postpone the trade mission to late August. We sincerely apologize for inconvenience this has caused. We are confident that the extra time frame will ensure that this trade mission will be one of the most successful endeavors.

Helen T. Chang  
Director of International Affairs & Development

[www.houstontx.gov/moiad](http://www.houstontx.gov/moiad)

## April 2005 Highlights

### Shanghai Economic Prospects and Business Opportunities

They may have “pressed the flesh” till dawn at the *Celebrate Shanghai in Houston*’s luxurious gala event the night before, but Houston’s economic leaders were all business on the morning of April 1. The first ever *Shanghai Economic Prospects & Business Opportunities Forum* was held at the InterContinental Hotel, Houston, with nearly 400 people in attendance.



*Qu Jun, Vice Chairman of Shanghai Education Commission (left) and John Allman, Headmaster of St. John's School – Houston (right).*

The event was not only host to the prestigious signing ceremony, but provided an arena that presented strategies for business expansion into the Chinese market, as presented by the Shell Corporation, Vinson & Elkins and Citigroup. In addition, delegates from Shanghai municipal government offered legal advice and logistical tactics for doing international business in Shanghai.

– By Kelly Wright

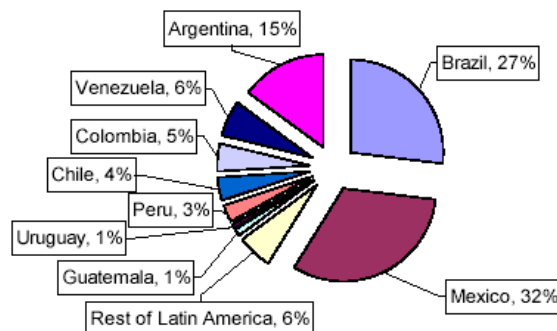


*Xu Peixing, Director of Shanghai Port Authority (left) and James T. Edmonds, Chairman of Port of Houston Authority (right).*

### Opportunities in Mexico, Venezuela, Brazil and Colombia

With girls like Gisele Bundchen, miles of pristine rainforest stuffed with exotic animals, and salsa – the dance and the dip – what isn't there to love about Latin America? Not only is the region rife with culture, our neighbors to the South are also quickly becoming valuable resources and trading partners to the U.S. In 2004 alone, the U.S. imported \$98 billion worth of merchandise from Latin America and the Caribbean, with fuel and oil accounting for 40.2% of the imports. In return, the U.S. sent \$60 billion in merchandise southbound in 2004.

On April 18, the Greater Houston Partnership and the Americas Business Forum Committee presented *Opportunities and Challenges for Doing Business in Mexico, Venezuela, Brazil, and Colombia*. Featuring Walter M. Bastian of the U.S. Department of Commerce International Trade Administration, the event focused on the growing Latin American market as well as international business development strategies for Houston. With the goal of enriching Houston as an international city, industry leaders explored the export business. – By Kelly Wright



*In terms of actual purchasing power, 92% of the Latin American market potential is concentrated in just seven countries—Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, Colombia, Chile, and Peru.*

*Source: World Bank Group, data as of 2002*

## India's Emerging Role in the New Global Economy

2005 is the year Houston highlighted Indian culture. This year's International Festival was dedicated to the South Asian nation in a celebration of India's cultural and community contributions to our city. Also, the Greater Houston Partnership teamed up with the Consulate General of the Republic of India to present *India's Emerging Role in the New Global Economy* on April 22, in conjunction with the International Festival's focus.

The event, held at the InterContinental Hotel, featured a business panel and luncheon program dedicated to promoting trade with one of the fastest-growing nations in the world. Special guests and speakers included the president of the U.S.-India Business Council, Ron Summers, and several entrepreneurs whose multinational visions led them to establish operations in India. Mr. Summers explained that India has a coherent democracy; is pluralist; secular and has 1/5th the world's population and is the 2nd largest military in the world. India shares common values with the USA: Anti-Terrorism, Anti-Human Trafficking, Anti-Narcotics and our two countries are ideological partners.

### Did You Know?

India has the 2nd largest number of doctors, engineers and PhDs in the world and sends 100,000 Students to U.S. each year. The USA has 1.8 million Americans of Indian origin who are politically significant; politically integrated. Another important fact is that 54% of the Indian population is under the Age of 25.

"From all indications and from the data presented by the speakers, India remains an attractive investment destination, for entrepreneurs who are willing to seek attractive returns over the long term," said Bharat Wakhlu, President of Tata Inc.

### Special Thanks

*Article submitted by the Greater Houston Partnership.*

## What Does the Future Hold for the Gulf Coast Petrochemical Industry?

For many years, the Texas Gulf Coast petrochemical producers have played a major role in the Texas economy. As the largest manufacturing industry in the state, it provides over 70,000 jobs and almost \$20 billion in total annual economic impact.

In recent times, the petrochemical industry has experienced major changes in the competitiveness of its raw materials and the cost of energy supplies; the changes in these economic fundamentals have generated uncertainty as well as interest in meeting these concerns. The University of Houston Global Energy Management Institute (UH-GEMI), in association with leading industry consultants Charles River Associates and Accenture, held a conference titled 'The Future of the Gulf Coast Petrochemical Industry' on April 29, 2005, at the Houstonian Hotel to address and analyze the pertinent issues in planning for the future of the industry.

The daylong conference, attended by over 120 members representing a spectrum of petrochemical and affiliated industries, covered three main areas: 1) critical examination on the underlying elements of the prevailing pessimistic conventional wisdom, 2) potential developments that could influence the overall competitiveness of the Gulf Coast, and 3) identification and articulation the public policy issues that will shape the industry's future. Through a variety of presenters and panel speakers offering their distinct viewpoints and the insights from their professional experience, the conference was a great success in comprehensively covering and providing expert analyses of the conference objectives. – **By David Chang**



## Upcoming Major Events



*Calgary, a city nestled in the Canadian Rockies*

### Deputy Mayor of Calgary to First Canadian-Houston Partnership Agreement

In an effort to work more closely with our Northern neighbors, the Mayor's Office, City of Houston, is forging a partnership agreement between the cities of Houston and Calgary. Calgary is nestled just above Montana in the Canadian Rockies of Alberta, Canada's "energy province." Even though both cities are known as the energy hotspots of their respective countries, that is not all we have in common. Calgary plays host to an exciting, bull-riding, wagon-racing livestock show known as the Calgary Stampede.

Calgary Deputy Mayor Craig Burrows will visit Houston on May 1 to meet with Council Member Mark Goldberg. An official city partnership agreement, Houston's first in Canada, will be signed during his visit to Houston. The agreement will cement the exchange of information and ideas in the industries of life sciences and energy, along with cultural exchange. In addition, deputy Mayor Burrows will also attend the Offshore Technology Conference (OTC) held in Houston. - **By Kelly Wright**

#### Did You Know?

In 2003, Canada was the U.S.'s main supplier of imported oil/products; Alberta is Canada's main producer of coal, oil and natural gas.

## Information Technology Exposition & Conference (ITEC)

Looking for new ways to expand, transform, and upgrade your business? ITEC is coming to Houston on May 11-12 to help you do just that. ITEC, a national technological organization, gives IT and business professionals access to important and pertinent technology solutions. An array of national and local vendors offers products and services to enhance business performance, such as VPN & Remote Access, Wireless Communications & Networks, and Network Management Tools.

#### Did You Know?

Houston is not only the U.S.'s leader in the oil and gas industry, but also in the industry's software development. Houston employs 68% of the nation's critical information technology associates who work to develop software that all oil and gas companies will need in the future.

*Source: ICF Consulting*

The three main components of the program are to integrate, investigate, and innovate. To integrate is "to bridge the gap from yesterday's technology to tomorrow's," a "ceaseless job that represents the lion's share of an IT technicians day-to-day workload."

To investigate is to scout out "new technologies to cut corporate waste and improve profitability." And, to innovate is to draw upon the most advanced information "to take your existing IT infrastructure to the next level." For more information, please call 1-866-784-6398.

- **By Ivy Kuperberg**

## 2005 Symposium on Sino-US Finance Cooperation & Enterprise Development

### What is the 2005 Symposium?

In celebration of and preparation for China's enactment of its WTO regulations in 2006, the Chinese Association of Professionals in Science & Technology (CAPST), Mayor's Office, City of Houston, and MetroBank will host a four-day symposium at InterContinental Hotel, Houston. The event will introduce financial and government leaders to the expanding opportunities and challenges faced in today's Chinese economic environment.

### What can I gain by attending the 2005 Symposium?

#### Did You Know?

This is the China decade: In 2001, China committed to World Trade Organization (WTO) membership; by 2007, China will have implemented all of the WTO regulations; in 2008, Beijing will host the Summer Olympics; also in 2008. If the market permits, China is expected to have revalued and floated the *renminbi* (currency); and in 2010, Shanghai will host the 2010 World Expo.

The Symposium will focus on: Modernizing the banking system and revaluing the *renminbi*; capital market development, investment protection, and raising capital; preparation for and education on China's policies and business ethics; and risk management in development and administration. Following the business workshops and a gala dinner, the program will culminate with a tour of Houston for interested parties.

### How can I learn more?

For more information, please visit <http://www.capst.org/FCEDEnglish/index.html> or e-mail [symposium@capst.org](mailto:symposium@capst.org). – By Kelly Wright

## 14<sup>th</sup> International Air Cargo Conference

This year's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual IACC Conference and Expo hosted by the Houston Airport System will be coming soon. The event featuring the Air, Land & Sea Shipping Services & Products Expo will be held on May 17-19, 2005, at the George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston.

It is no surprise for such a tremendous event to be held in Houston. The Houston Airport System alone offers the 11<sup>th</sup> largest cargo airport in the world. In addition, the Port of Houston is the largest international cargo port in the world!

Aside from the three-day Expo, the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament sponsored and hosted by Aeroterm, a great leader in on-airport properties, will take place on May 16.

– By Thu Phan

#### Did You Know?

With recent cargo facility improvements totaling \$180 million, IAH now has 880,000 square feet of cargo area, increasing its capacity by 75%. The new cargo facility can accommodate 454,000 tons. 47 air cargo carriers currently provide IAH freighter service, including Korean Air, Lufthansa, and FedEx.

*Source: Houston Airport System*

## Meet the Consular Corps in Houston

# Canada

*This month we head back to North America to meet with our neighbor to the north, the Honorable Diane Simsovic, Consul for the Canadian Consulate in Houston, who spoke on everything from the weather of Houston to trade relations and the Mayor of Calgary.*



*The Honorable Diane Simsovic, Trade Commissioner and Consul for Canadian Consulate in Houston*

Consul Simsovic has been the Consul of Canada in Houston since September 2004. This means that she has yet to experience a Houston summer, so for now she is enjoying the slightly warmer nature of Houston. Prior to the assignment to Houston, she was a director for investment and trade for Alberta economic development, where she

worked on such initiatives as assisting Canadian energy companies in investing in Mexico and in selling their technologies and services.

This makes her a perfect match for Houston. Consul Simsovic expressed strong interests in the development of technology agreements and partnerships between the two economic strongholds. As she is looking into ways of producing more effective and cleaner energy technologies as well as ways to enhance oil recoveries and performance in the oil industry, Consul Simsovic emphasizes the inclination of the government of Canada and numerous Canadian companies to form strong bonds with Houston.

### Did You Know?

In 2003, air cargo trade between Houston and Canada was valued at more than \$81 million. Imports from Canada, primarily electrical equipment, accounted for 37.0 percent of the total. Exports to Canada accounted for 65.7 percent of Houston's total air cargo trade with the country.

*Source: Greater Houston Partnership*

Experiencing the cosmopolitan nature of Houston, Consul Simsovic is very impressed with the multiculturalism, much like Canada's, a city with real appreciation for cultural differences as well as the very entrepreneurial and dynamic business environment. Central to the Canada-Houston partnership will be Houston's creative energy and business sector as well as the Medical Center, which has formed many partnerships with Canadian medical research facilities and shapes one of the biggest successes in the ties between the two cities.



*Map of Canada*

After years of initiatives, this is the first time that the partnership reaches well beyond its regional borders. A large delegation of 300 government officials and business leaders from Canada is visiting Houston for the Offshore Technology Conference, including the Premier of Newfoundland and other senior provincial politicians, as well as the Deputy Mayor of Calgary. This is all part of Houston being a top priority for Canada. And with such a nice consul and hard-working consulates, as well as all the opportunities and the searing economy of the two cities, we look forward to the closer partnership with Canada for years to come.

- By Ivy Kuperberg

## International Hub: The U.S. Department of Commerce

### The Houston Export Assistance Center

While Houston is known for its “can do” spirit, an increasingly interdependent global economy requires companies to quickly capitalize on new opportunities, particularly small- and medium-sized companies that comprise a significant portion of the Houston export community. Moreover, as federal, state and local government resources continue to contract, Houston companies need to know where to turn for assistance in order to grow their business internationally. With nearly ninety-six percent of the world’s consumers located outside the borders of the United States, growing one’s business internationally is more important than ever.

The Houston US Export Assistance Center (USEAC) is part of the U.S. Commercial Service (CS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce’s International Trade Administration. The organization maintains a global network of approximately 1,800 trade specialists working in 108 domestic offices and 149 posts in 78 countries.



*Duaine A. Priestley,  
Director of the  
Houston USEAC*

Mr. Duaine A. Priestley, Director of the Houston USEAC, recently returned to the Commerce Department after working in the private sector for the past five years. He worked in Washington, DC, for the Commerce Department as well as the US Chamber of Commerce. The Houston USEAC is staffed with four International Trade Specialists, each of whom are very knowledgeable about international trade opportunities. In August of this year, two senior Foreign Commercial Service officers from Mexico will begin a two-year temporary station with the Houston USEAC. To help Houston companies succeed in international markets, the Houston USEAC offers four categories of comprehensive products and services that all types of companies—those who are just starting to think about exporting for the first time,

to those that are already making sales in multiple international markets—can leverage: market research, trade events, international partners (matchmaking), consulting, and advocacy. For more information about the Houston USEAC, please visit [www.export.gov](http://www.export.gov), or [www.export.gov/houston](http://www.export.gov/houston).

#### USEAC’s customers: Houston companies

The Houston USEAC works with all types and sizes of the U.S. companies, but focuses mainly on SMEs that have the funds and motivation to investigate new international markets, and to make the first sales or additional sales. The primary SME segments that the CS targets are:

*New-to-market companies.* U.S. firms with some existing level of exporting activity that the CS assists in making a sale in an international market to which it has not exported for at least 24 months, or ever.

*New-to-export companies.* Firms that the CS assists in exporting for the first time ever, or the first time in 24 months.

*Increase-to-market companies.* Essentially, these are repeat customers looking for ways to build upon their success in markets to which they are already exporting.

*Women-owned companies, Minority-owned companies, and Rural Businesses.*

*Manufacturers.*

*Country-specific prospects.* Companies that are likely prospects for the key countries and regions on which CS is focused.

#### Special Thanks

*Article submitted by the Houston USEAC.*



## International Frontier – Helmar Zeissig

*Every month we focus upon a Houstonian who has made an indelible mark on our city through outstanding contributions and service to the growth of Houston as an international city.*



*Helmar Zeissig*

### The Texas Bug

"I was infected by the Texas bug," Dr. Zeissig said of his early years working for a German steel company branch in Houston. Since then, he has spent 22 years in the energy consulting business, and is now the president of Houston International Business Corporation.

When Dr. Zeissig first arrived in Houston, he wasn't sure if Texan friendliness was a front. "Now, when I'm in an elevator in Germany and no one is talking, I think something is wrong. In Houston, if you have a flat tire, within five minutes you are overwhelmed by offers to help!"

### City in the International Stream

In addition to friendliness, Dr. Zeissig was attracted by Houston's growing diversity, especially after the 1980s bust. "By geographic location and tradition, Houston is an international city," Dr. Zeissig said. "There is no major energy deal in the world that doesn't in some part take place in Houston." Outside of business, "You can tell a lot about a

city's international ties by going to the grocery store. Today, every grocery store has German beer!"

### Gateway to the South

Although Dr. Zeissig cites the Middle East as "a tremendous impact on our business and city," he is truly dedicated to South America, having lived in both Chile and Peru. Not surprisingly, his favorite language to speak, of the four in which he is fluent, is Spanish. "Houston is the gateway to Mexico and Latin America and has been on the forefront of the South America market."

### Here's to Houston and Diversity

So how does 27 years spent living in Houston affect Dr. Zeissig's trips back to the Motherland? As the old saying goes, *you can take the man out of Texas, but you can't take Texas out of the man.*

Through work, Dr. Zeissig's energy consulting expertise has taken him around the world to developing countries in conjunction with World Bank and UN reform commissions. Like his fellow Europeans, he's "much more a Houstonian" than where he came from.

– By Kelly Wright

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**Next Submission Deadline:  
May 20, 2005**



## May - 2005 Event Calendar

| Date     | Time          | Event   | Venue/Contact   |
|----------|---------------|---|---|
| May      | --            | Asian/ Pacific American Heritage Month  | Venue: --<br>Contact: --  |
| May 1-4  | --            | City of Houston Mayor's Office: Deputy Mayor of Calgary, Canada, visits Houston   | Venue: Call for more information<br>Contact: Helen Chang 713-247-3595                           |
| May 1    | Noon-8:00pm   | Asian/ Pacific American Heritage Association: Asian/Pacific American Heritage Festival  | Venue: Miller Outdoor Theatre in Hermann Park<br>Contact: 713-498-3566                          |
| May 2    | 2:00pm        | Houston Independent School District: Ethel R. Coop Elementary School groundbreaking ceremony  | Venue: 10130 Aldine-Westfield<br>Contact: 713-225-5900  |
| May 2    | 6:00pm-8:00pm | Bilateral US-Arab Chamber of Commerce: Annual OTC Reception   | Venue: Omni Hotel<br>Contact: 713-880-8168  |
| May 3    | 5:30pm        | Houston Networking News: Vitalis Medical Spa, a special evening   | Venue: 1009 Missouri<br>Contact: www.vitalismedicalspa.com                                      |
| May 3    | 6:00pm        | Asia Society Texas: Reception and Talk with author Loung Ung, Lucky Child: A Daughter of Cambodia, Reunites with the Sister She Left Behind | Venue: Hilton Houston Post Oak<br>Contact: 713-439-0051   |
| May 3    | 6:00pm-9:00pm | World Energy Cities Partnership: 2005 Networking Reception  | Venue: Museum of Fine Arts, Houston<br>281-233-1931<br>Contact                                  |
| May 3    | 6:00pm        | Asia Society Texas: Loung Ung, Lucky Child, A Daughter of Cambodia Reunites with the Sister She Left Behind                                 | Venue: Hilton Houston Post Oak<br>Contact: txcenter@asiasoc.org                                 |
| May 4    | 6:00pm        | Asia Society Texas: Orphans Created by the Aids Epidemic in Central China   | Venue: Compass Bank Conference Room<br>Contact: 713-439-0265                                    |
| May 5    | 6:00pm        | Houston World Affairs Council: A Taste of Cinco de Mayo – Tequila Tasting   | Venue: Doneraki's Restaurant & Bar<br>Contact: 713-522-7811                                     |
| May 7    | 9:00am-4:00pm | Texas Dragon Boat Association: 5 <sup>th</sup> Houston Dragon Boat Festival   | Venue: Downtown<br>Contact: 832-687-7208  |
| May 9-18 | --            | The Bilateral US Arab Chamber of Commerce: 2005 Saudi Trade Mission   | Venue: New York, Atlanta, Houston, Chicago, San Francisco<br>Contact: www.SaudiTradeMission.com |
| May 10   | 6:30pm-9:00pm | City of Houston: 2005 Mayor's Volunteer Houston Awards ceremony   | Venue: Westin Galleria Hotel<br>Contact: www.volunteerhouston.org                               |
| May 10   | 7:30am-9:30am | Deloitte: Getting to the Heart of Talent Management, A Diversity Perspective roundtable discussion  | Venue: Four Seasons Hotel<br>Contact: 713-982-2615  |
| May 10   | 9:30am-1:30pm | Greater Houston Partnership: Roundtable on Brazil and Australia   | Venue: GHP<br>Contact: 713-844-3636   |

|           |                |   |  |
|-----------|----------------|---|--|
| May 11-12 | 10:00am-4:00pm | Houston Technology Center: Houston ITEC   | Venue: Reliant Center<br>Contact: <a href="http://www.goitec.com">www.goitec.com</a>   |
| May 11    | 11:30am-1:00pm | Asian Chamber of Commerce: Celebrating Diversity in the Workplace by Don Higginbotham, Senior Executive Consultant  | Venue: Westin Galleria Hotel<br>Contact: 713-782-7222  |
| May 11    | 4:00pm-5:00pm  | Houston Technology Center: Orientation  | Venue: HTC<br>Contact: 713-658-1750  |
| May 12    | 8:00am-4:30pm  | Fort Worth International Center: Catching the Wave, Emerging Market Opportunities & Funding Your Global Growth, Ambassador John Bruton, head of the European Union Delegation to the U.S. | Venue: Westin Galleria Hotel – Dallas<br>Contact: 214-712-1901   |
| May 12    | 10:00am        | Houston Municipal Art Commission: 14 Anniversary  | Venue: The Bob Lanier Public Works Building<br>Contact: 713-247-3500   |
| May 12    | 11:00am-1:30pm | Deloitte & Touche Asian Business Resource Group China Conference Luncheon: Improving Bi-lateral Trade with China  | Venue: Four Seasons Hotel<br>Contact: 713-439-0265   |
| May 12    | 11:30am-noon   | French-American Chamber of Commerce - Houston: Medium and long-term financing opportunities with US Small Business Administration's lending program                                       | Venue: Hotel Derek<br>Contact: <a href="http://www.facchouston.com">www.facchouston.com</a>  |
| May 12    | 6:00pm-7:45pm  | Houston World Affairs Council: Film Showing – Lost Boys of Sudan  | Venue: The Junior League<br>Contact: 713-522-7811  |
| May 12    | 7:00pm         | Women's Museum: Conversations with Three Funny Women  | Venue: TBD<br>Contact: <a href="mailto:ltaa@ltaa.org">ltaa@ltaa.org</a>  |
| May 13-15 | ---            | Mayor's Office, Chinese Association of Professionals in Science and Technology and Metro Bank: 2005 Symposium on Sino-US Finance Cooperation and Enterprise Development                   | Venue: Intercontinental Hotel<br>Contact: Allen Xi 713-622-0227<br>Henry Li 713-414-3786<br>Helen Chang 713-247-3595                       |
| May 13    | 7:30am-9:00am  | Greater Houston Partnership: Clean Air Committee Breakfast, featuring Robert King, Good Company Associates  | Venue: GHP<br>Contact: 713-844-3656  |
| May 13    | 8:30am-2:30pm  | Saudi Arabia: Business Forum  | Venue: Sofitel Houston<br>Contact: 301-897-7481  |
| May 13    | Noon-1:00pm    | Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce: Ambassador Meeting  | Venue: TBD<br>Contact: 713-644-7377  |
| May 16-19 | 12:00pm-7:00pm | IACC-Houston: 14 <sup>th</sup> Annual IACC Golf 14 <sup>th</sup> Annual IACC – 2005 Houston Featuring Air, Land & Sea Shipping Product/ Service Expo”                                     | Venue: George R. Brown Convention Center<br>Contact: Terry Heekin 321-783-0088<br><a href="http://www.iacc-expo.com">www.iacc-expo.com</a> |

|           |               |   |   |
|-----------|---------------|---|---|
| May 17    | 5:30pm        | <b>Greater Houston Partnership: B2B/Member2Member Networking Party</b>  | Venue: Champions Pavilion – Minute Maid Park<br>Contact: 713-844-3600   |
| May 17-19 | --            | <b>Houston Airport System: 14<sup>th</sup> Annual International Air Cargo Conference &amp; Exhibit</b>                  | Venue: George R. Brown Convention Center<br>Contact: terryiac@bellsouth.net   |
| May 18    | 8:00am-4:00pm | <b>Asian Chamber of Commerce: The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Technical Assistant Program Seminar</b> | Venue: Hilton University of Houston<br>Contact: 713-209-3436  |
| May 18    | 8:30am-5:00pm | <b>Houston Technology Center: Workshop designed to provide entrepreneurs the tools</b>                                  | Venue: HTC<br>Contact: 713-658-1750   |
| May 18    | 11:30am       | <b>Indo-American Chamber of Commerce: Business Lunch</b>  | Venue: TBA<br>Contact: <a href="mailto:Almamach@aol.com">Almamach@aol.com</a>   |
| May 19-21 | --            | <b>Greater Houston Partnership: Colombian Oil and Gas Investment Conference</b>   | Venue: Cartagena, Colombia<br>Contact: <a href="http://www.gematours.com/hidrocarburos">www.gematours.com/hidrocarburos</a> |
| May 19    | AM            | <b>US-ASEAN Business / US Ambassador's visit to Houston, breakfast meeting</b>  | Venue: Four Seasons Hotel<br>Contact: Helen Chang 713-247-3595  |
| May 19    | 8:00am-noon   | <b>US-ASEAN Business / US Ambassador's visit to Houston: "A Channel to Southeast Asia and its Tremendous</b>            | Venue: University of Houston International Trade Center<br>Contact: 281-449-9417  |
| May 19    | 11:30am       | <b>Greater Houston Preservation Alliance: National Preservation Month Luncheon</b>                                      | Venue: TBD<br>Contact: 713-216-5000   |
| May 25    | 8:30am-5:00pm | <b>Houston Technology Center: Intro to Entrepreneurship</b>   | Venue: HTC<br>Contact: 713-658-1750   |
| May 25    | 4:00pm-5:00pm | <b>Houston Technology Center: Orientations</b>  | Venue: HTC<br>Contact: 713-658-1750   |
| May 26    | 9:00am-5:00pm | <b>Japan-America Society of Houston: Language Competition</b>   | Venue: Japan-America Society<br>Contact: 713-963-0121   |
| May 26    | 8:00am-4:00pm | <b>Houston Technology Center: Marketing in the Oilfield, Can Marketing Actually Drive Sales?</b>                        | Venue: The Houstonian – Houston<br>Contact: 713-658-1750  |
| May 26    | 9:00am-5:00pm | <b>Houston Networking News: Building a Better Business Conference</b>   | Venue: Hilton – Medical Center<br>Contact: 281-778-6661   |
| May 26    | 6:00pm-7:45pm | <b>Houston World Affairs Council: The End of Al-Qaeda and the Coming of Democracy by Reuel Marc Gerecht</b>             | Venue: The Junior League<br>Contact: 713-522-7811   |

*We have one simple goal: to promote Houston as a renowned international city.*

The contents are intended for general information purposes only.

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